

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing filaments from an optically anisotropic spinning solution comprising extruding in which the spinning solution is ~~extruded~~ through a spinneret (1) ~~comprising a spinning field (2) with a plurality of spinning orifices (3),~~ into a coagulation bath (4) through a slot or diaphragm (5), ~~the edges (6a,6b) thereof being formed by plates (7a,7b) with upper sides (8a,8b) and lower sides (9a,9b), the upper sides (8a,8b) of the plates (7a,7b) being defined as the sides having a the shortest distance to the spinning field (2), characterized in that the~~ wherein a line (10) through ~~a the~~ center (13) of the spinning field (2) and perpendicular to the upper sides (8a,8b) is located at ~~put at~~ a distance (d) ~~from to~~ a parallel line (11) through ~~a the~~ center (14) of the slot or diaphragm (5), ~~the wherein a projection of the slot or diaphragm which has about the a same size and shape as the a projection of the spinning field (2), and wherein at the plane of an the upper side (8b) of one plate (7b) of the plates has having a shorter distance to the center (13) of the spinning field than a the plane of an the upper side (8a) of the other of the plates plate (7a), and the line through the center of the spinning field (10) has a smaller distance to the edge (6a) of the other of the plates plate (7a) than to an edge (6b) of the one of the plates plate (7b).~~

2. (Currently Amended) An air gap spinning device comprising a spinneret (1) comprising a spinning field (2) with a plurality of spinning orifices (3), and a slot or diaphragm (5) with edges (6a,6b) formed by plates (7a,7b) with upper sides (8a,8b) and lower sides (9a,9b), the upper sides (8a,8b) of the plates (7a,7b) being defined as having a ~~the sides that have the shortest distance to the spinning field (2), wherein~~ characterized in that a line (10) through ~~a the~~ center (13) of the spinning field and perpendicular to the upper sides (8a,8b)

has a distance (d) ~~with from~~ a parallel line-(11) through ~~at~~ the center-(14) of the slot or diaphragm-(5), ~~wherein at~~ the projection of ~~the slot or diaphragm~~ which has about ~~the~~ a same size and shape as ~~the~~ a projection of the spinning field-(2), and wherein ~~at~~ the plane of ~~an~~ the upper side-(8b) of one ~~of the plates~~ plate-(7b) has a shorter distance to the center-(13) of the spinning field than ~~at~~ the plane of ~~an~~ the upper side-(8a) of the other ~~of the plates~~ plate-(7a), and ~~a~~ line-(10) has a smaller distance to ~~an~~ the edge-(6a) of ~~an other~~ plate-(7a) than to ~~an~~ edge-(6b) of ~~the one~~ plate-(7b).

3. (Currently Amended) The air gap spinning device of ~~elaim 2~~ claim 2, wherein the thickness of each of the plates-(7a,7b) is independently about 0.5 to 5 mm.

4. (Currently Amended) The air gap spinning device of ~~elaim 2 or 3~~ claim 2, wherein the distance (d) between the line through the center of the spinning field-(10) and the parallel line through the center of the slot or diaphragm-(11) is about 0.4 to 50 mm.

5. (Currently Amended) The air gap spinning device of ~~elaim 4~~ claim 2, wherein the distance (d) between the line through the center of the spinning field-(10) and the parallel line through the center of the slot or diaphragm-(11) is about 1 to 2 mm.

6. (Currently Amended) The air gap spinning device of ~~any one of elaims 2-5~~ claim 2, wherein the thickness of each of the plates-(7a,7b) is about the same as the distance (d) between the line through the center of the spinning field-(10) and the parallel line through the center of the slot or diaphragm-(11).

7. (Currently Amended) The air gap spinning device of ~~any one of elaims 2-6~~ claim 2, wherein the projection of the slot or diaphragm-(5) has a ~~somewhat~~ greater length than the projection of the spinning field-(2) and is ~~somewhat~~ narrower in width.